

tinies of empires! All might have that day been changed—the fifth act of the great drama which had been so long performing in Europe might have had a wine cellar for denouement.—*Napier's Military Life.*



THE FREE TRADER.

Weaver & Hise, Editors.

Ottawa, Ill., Friday, November 6, 1840.

We acknowledge the receipt of several interesting letters from our esteemed correspondent "Traveler," but as they came too late to answer the purpose intended, we are obliged to place them among "things that were."

More Emigrating Indians.

Our readers will recollect we stated a short time since that a portion of the Pottawattamie tribe of Indians passed through this place on their way to the west of the Mississippi, and that they would soon be followed by others. On Monday last about six hundred of the same tribe passed through our town accompanied by 50 of the U. S. Regulars stationed at Detroit. We understand the Agent had considerable trouble in collecting them together in Michigan, their former abode, and that, notwithstanding the assistance of the regulars, a few still eluded his search, and remain secreted in the swamps & forests. The Pottawattamies have been considered the most filthy and worthless of all Indian tribes, and their appearance on Monday detracted nothing from their former reputation.

United States Bank.

Bennett, of the N. Y. Herald, whose knowledge of the monetary affairs of this country is at least equal to that of any other man living, speaking, in a late number, of the ability of the United States Bank to resume on the day appointed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, (the 15th of Jan. 1841,) says: "Hitherto it has been supposed that the U. S. Bank would find some means to enable it to resume. Governor Porter avowed that the time for resumption should on no account be extended, and the movements of the bank confirmed the hope that she would be able to resume. The face of affairs has now changed, and it has become nearly certain that no resumption will take place. The bank, in a recent circular, confessed its inability to resume without the assistance of the other banks. The matter has been taken into consideration by them, and the result is that no assistance can be afforded. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, the fourteen banks holding demands past due against the United States Bank for \$6,000,000, are called upon to change them into demands twelve months hence, without additional security, in order to save the credit of the debtor bank, or to submit to the loss attending her discredit. Most of the directors of the bank do not feel themselves authorized to comply with the request of the United States Bank without a meeting and consultation of their shareholders. There have been some hints thrown out that the stockholders in England would advance an amount of money sufficient to aid in resumption; but to obtain further loans from men, or their friends, who hold a stock depreciated 50 per cent., and which has yielded no income for the past year, additional and undoubted security is requisite, and also such as will be available. This is precisely what the bank cannot give. Her choice securities were all pledged last year for loans which are again falling due. The result will be that no resumption will take place. Philadelphia has still sufficient power to control the movements of the southern and south-western banks, and most of the southern States will follow in the same course. If part of the Philadelphia institutions are strong enough to sustain themselves independently of the others, it must be by remaining within their shells, and doing no business."

Pennsylvania Election.

The last Richmond Enquirer contains a communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, relative to the recent election in that state. By the statement there made, together with the returns in possession of the editor of the Enquirer, the vote is put down thus:

Democratic,	85,786
Whig,	77,100
Democratic majority,	8,686

Judging from the numerous returns of "various hues" in our possession, we are inclined to believe the above statement as nearly correct as can be got at at present. Mr. Van Buren will carry the state by nearly the same majority. A few days will tell.

The Whigs have a majority in both branches of the Legislature. It stands thus:

Senate,	Dem.	15	Whig.	18
House of Representatives,	Dem.	49	Whig.	51
	Dem.	64	Whig.	69
	Dem.	64	Whig.	69

Whig majority on joint ballot, 5.

Of the members of Congress the Whigs have probably gained 3 and lost 1. We shall publish a correct table as soon as we can make one out.

Ohio Election.

It appears that Corwin, the whig candidate, has been elected Governor of Ohio by upwards of sixteen thousand majority. Dr. Duncan may yet get his seat. It is said, in one ward in Cincinnati there were 88 more votes polled than there were names on the poll books, and several Kentuckians have been imprisoned for voting illegally in the Doctor's district. The election will be contested.

Tippencanoe Turnips.

We have in our office a turnip which weighs 16 pounds and measures 8 feet in circumference.

raised on the farm of Mr. Parker, on Indian Creek. He showed us another which weighed 12½ pounds. Mr. P. insists that they are of the "real Tippencanoe stamp."

Illinois Election.

his part shall be spared to make his entertainment superior to any other in the Western country. Having been a landlord for many years, he flatters himself that he can suit if people will only call.

People with teams will find his Stable particularly desirable.

May 23, 1840.

B. DOUGLASS.

Ottawa Chair Manufactory.



MOORE & WATERMAN.

WOULD respectfully inform the inhabitants of this vicinity, that they still continue manufacture CHAIRS on La Salle Street, a few doors North of the Market House, where they constantly keep on hand

AN ASSORTMENT OF CHAIRS

In August last the Democratic majority was 520—Democratic gain since that time, 38.

William Reddick is re-elected Sheriff without opposition, Mr. Hanly's friends having withdrawn his name a few days previous to the election.

Mr. Reddick has 2286 votes.

COOK COUNTY.

Precincts.	Van Buren.	Harrison.	Abolition.
Chicago,	807	622	1
Summit,	285	27	
Bridgeport,	29	5	
Athens,	476	54	
Thornton,	69	45	1
Lake,	56	33	
Gross Point,	54	14	
Ausangaskee,	35	12	
Monroe,	48	45	
Lyons,		6 maj.	
	1859	863	2
	863		

Democratic maj. 996

In Hanover and Barrington precincts there were no polls opened.

WILL COUNTY—Several precincts to hear from

Precincts.	Van Buren.	Harrison.
Juliet,	352 maj.	
Romeo,	300	
Lockport,	69	
Hickory Creek,		18 maj.
Yankee Settlement,		30
Plainfield,	25	
Van Buren,	153	
Du Page,	10	
Wilkinson,		79
Bulbous Grove,		30
Yellow Head,		20
	909	177
	177	
Dem. maj. thus far,	732	

Judge Pearson, the democratic Senator, had a majority of 618 last August, in Will county.

PEORIA COUNTY.

Precincts.	Van Buren.	Harrison.
Peoria,	239	311
Lagrange,	86	44
Jackson,	25	9
Northampton,	41	52
Prince Grove,	33	28
Harkness,	36	49
Benton,		5 maj.
Senachewine,	15 maj.	
La Salle,	32	
Lafayette,	5	
Charleston,		38 maj.
Rochester,		19
Middle,	39	7
Lamarab,	31 maj.	
Copperas,	52	49
	716	693
	693	

Democratic maj. 23

In August the whigs claimed a majority of 7 in this county—Democratic gain 33.

KANE COUNTY—In part.

Precincts.	Van Buren.	Harrison.
St. Charles,	5 maj.	
Elgin,	14	
Aurora,	6	
Sandusky,		7 maj.
Fairfield,		29
Lake,	49	119
Washington,		7
Little Rock,	44 maj.	
Sugar Grove,		3
Ellery,		29
Blackberry,	18	
Oswego,	13	
Deerfield,	10	
	159	194

DECATUR COUNTY.—Six precincts heard from—Whig majority 57.

LAKE COUNTY.—One precinct, Lake Zurich which gives the whigs a majority of 17.

TAZEWELL COUNTY.—Six precincts heard from, which gives the whigs a majority of 413—the whigs carried this county last August by nearly 400 majority.

DE KALB COUNTY has given a Democratic majority of 24.

LEE COUNTY has given the whigs a majority of 11.

In 1836 Martin Van Buren carried this State by a majority of 2,983.

Cook county in 1836 gave Gen. Harrison a majority of 5—Democratic gain 1,001.

Peoria county in 1836 gave Van Buren a majority of 69—whig gain 52.

Will county in 1836 gave Van Buren a majority of 120—it will now reach nearly 700.

Vote of different Counties, so far as heard.

Precincts.	Van Buren.	Harrison.
La Salle,	1638	1080
Will, (not complete),	909	117
Peoria,	716	693
Kane, (not complete),	142	97
Du Page, six precincts,		57 maj.
Livingston,		5
Sangamon,	1249	2000
Hancock,		780 maj.
Adams,		400
McDonough,		70
McCoupin,		33 maj.
Tazewell,	630	1136

NEWS BY THE MAIL.

The Wabash.—The Lafayette Eagle states that the Wabash river is in fine boating order, and upon the rise. There is some fear, however, from the quantity of rain that has fallen and continues to fall, that it will overflow its banks & do much damage to the crops upon the low bottoms.

The Reading (Pa.) Gazette says: "The Village Record is so related with the present organization of the fire companies of West Chester, and the early anticipated completion of their water-works, that it proposes, when this glorious event shall be accomplished, to set a house on fire to test the efficiency of the concern!"

Sugar from Rags.—Sir John Herschell, in his "Preliminary Treatise to Natural Philosophy," first directed attention to the fact that, by the application of one of the cheapest of acids, (sulphuric acid,) more than their weight of sugar can be obtained from rags!

The Amistad.—This famous schooner and her cargo were sold at New London, on the 15th ult. by order of the U. S. Circuit Court, for the district of Connecticut.

Project for blowing up Vessels of War.—A correspondent of the London Times, who writes from Egypt, says that some Americans, who have taken up Fulton's torpedo project for blowing up vessels of war by grenades attached under water, are negotiating with the Chinese for rendering them assistance against the English men-of-war in this destructive capacity. The thing is not a mere speculation, but is known to be in practical existence, and has been ready to be applied in case of an American war, ever since the burning of Washington.

Galvanized Tin and Iron.—This is an article for roofing and other purposes, which is beginning to be extensively used in Europe and also in New York. It was first introduced to public notice by M. Dumas, some years ago, in a report to the Academy of Science, Paris. It is said to possess all the conveniences of tin plates, with the additional advantage that it does not rust on exposure to the weather, but is as unchangeable as copper, and much cheaper. It presents a brilliant crystalline appearance.

The Fisheries.—The Yarmouth Register states that the fishermen have met with very unequal success this season. Of the mackerel fishermen a very few have made good voyages; some have done fair, but a large number have realized little more than enough to pay their outfits, and others have not met their expenses.

The quantity of cod taken is less than last year. It is estimated that the number of quintals taken by the Massachusetts and Maine fishermen is one third less than last year.

Another Revolutionary Patriot Gone.—The Boston Transcript of the 12th ult. has the following: "Died, in this city, on Saturday morning last, Mr. William Pierce, aged 96 years. Mr. Pierce was one of the few remaining survivors of the celebrated Boston Tea Party, and was a revolutionary pensioner."

Wedding Match—Bruin worsted.—The Buffalo Commercial of the 10th ult. says: "Two boys, brothers, digging potatoes in a field near London, U. C., were attacked a few days since by a she bear, and the eldest thrown with much violence upon the ground. After this part of the introduction was over, the other brother seized his spade and dealt such a severe blow upon the head of madam Bruin as to cause her to cry piteously and cut for the woods. Of course, the eldest boy attributes his preservation to the courage and intrepidity of his little companion."

The Methodists in Canada.—The Methodists in Canada now consist of nearly one hundred thousand souls. They have sprung up in a few years from very small beginnings, and under many disadvantages. It is not many years, says the Quebec Gazette, since the only Methodist preacher in Lower Canada was incarcerated several months in the Quebec jail for libel; and in Upper Canada there were only a few wandering missionaries. They have now numerous substantial churches; a college of their own; and many able and respectable preachers.

Curious Fuel.—It is stated that Mehmet Ali, Napoleon Bonaparte, and the Duke of Wellington were all born in the same year.

Steam on the Western Waters.—The first steamer on the Mississippi was launched in 1811—now there are more than six hundred on that river and its tributaries.

The first steamer passed on the lakes from Buffalo in 1818—now those inland seas are navigated by sixty-one steamships, some of them magnificent in their construction and of the largest class.

Invention.—Some Yankee has invented a machine for cutting shoe soles. It cuts twelve soles at a time, and rapidly repeats the operation. It is now to be seen at the exhibition of the Franklin institute, Philadelphia.

The Commissioners of the Registry in New York City closed their books on the 10th ult. The number of votes registered is 43,651, exceeding, by more than two thousand, the highest vote ever polled in the city.

Steam Boat Sunk.—The Western World, published at Warsaw, in this State, says: "The steamer John Shaw, was sunk on Saturday morning last, on the Des Moines rapids, about four miles above this place. Our river is at present in fine navigable order, and boats of a light draught can easily cross the rapids."

Wabash and Erie Canal.—This canal is now completed from Fort Wayne to Lafayette, in the State of Indiana. The Lafayette Eagle says: "The Canal Packet Boat ERIE, commanded by Captain Mahon, arrived at the foot of Maine Street, from Fort Wayne, on Monday evening last. We understand that this boat will continue her trips between this place and Fort Wayne whilst the Canal remains open."

What's in a Name?—The Boston Post says: "The brig *Temperance*, from Rotterdam, has brought 140 pipes gin, 2 cases opium, and 1 case fiddles!"

Capital Punishment.—Governor Porter, of Pennsylvania, has signed the death warrant of Robert McConachy, who for the sake of a few dollars murdered the whole Brown family, six in number, near Huntingdon. He is to be executed on the 6th inst.

Enterprise.—Prentice is going to enlarge his weekly Journal. Its old belief that that man is never out of spirits.—*Sp. of the Times.*

Mysterious Affair.

Extract from a letter dated Nassau, (N. P.) 27th August, 1840, received via Havana. "A singular circumstance occurred a few days ago. A large French ship from Hamburg, bound to Havana, was picked up by one of our little wreckers about a fortnight ago, quite deserted. She was afloat with no sails set but a jib: not in the least injured; having a very valuable cargo of wines, silks, fruits, &c., and all in good order, and her papers and every thing on board in their proper places. When sounded, three feet water was found in her hold, which was immediately pumped out; and it was discovered that she had no leak. A few poultry and a cat were only found alive. There were a number of cages with canary birds, apparently starved to death in them. I have seen one of the persons who first went on board, (our old wrecking acquaintance B.), and he says that the cabin and state rooms were beautifully furnished and had all the appearance of passengers having just stepped out of them; one, in particular, had a ladies' toilet, combs, brushes, &c., as if that moment laid down. No one can conjecture why she was so abandoned. There are many cases on board addressed to different merchants in Havana, and the vessel on which I am now writing is despatched to gain some information on the subject. She is a large new ship, built this year, and is named the *Rosalie*.—*N. O. Bulletin.*

Inland Trade with Mexico.

Some account of the State of Chihuahua, one of the interior departments of Mexico, was recently communicated in a letter from a merchant of that country published in the Washington Globe. Chihuahua is rich in silver mines. During a period of four years, from 1824 to 1828, a single mine situated on the great chain of mountains to the east of the city of Chihuahua produced more than eleven millions of dollars in silver. But this was a rare product. At present from two to two and a half millions are obtained annually from the mines of this district, the greater portions of them being paralysed on account of the very high prices of quicksilver. A large portion of the precious metal thus yielded is shipped from the ports of Mazatlan and Guaymas, on the Pacific ocean, in exchange for goods, brought from England; the rest is exported by the way of Matamoros or some other port on the Gulf of Mexico.

There are six chief mining towns in the department of Chihuahua, in which there are upwards of four hundred shafts of mines; the few that are now worked employ from 12,000 to 15,000 workmen. Their duration is said to be incalculable, and as the country is explored more and more, new mines are discovered. It is the opinion of the writer that the application of steam power to the working of the mines would greatly facilitate operations and render the business more profitable. The system of large companies, it is thought, would also be an important improvement, in the mode of conducting the business, as at present the mines are mostly in the hands of men of limited means who are not able to undertake a large system of arrangements.

With regard to the trade of that region, some useful information is given, going to show that by an interior route from the state of Arkansas to Chihuahua, the mining districts of that department might be better supplied with goods than from the ports of the Pacific. The annual consumption of Chihuahua does not fall short of three millions; the supplies come mostly from England, although the nearest sea-port on the Pacific is six hundred miles distant, and the transportation is over a difficult country. The writer gives an account of an expedition which he undertook with two other merchants in April, 1839, with a caravan of five hundred mules and seven wagons, from Chihuahua to the frontier of Arkansas. He says:

"Without any track whatever, and trusting solely to chart and compass, with which we were provided, we expected to encounter some obstacles to the passage of carriages, and were prepared with iron instruments for the purpose of removing them. We feared that we should meet with water only at great distances, and that we and our animals would suffer greatly from thirst. What was our surprise, however, and with what pleasure did we see the road level, firm, and covered with pastures, with streams at distances of two, three and four miles, and regularly supplied with fords! Thus, sir, our new route is the best and shortest that we could desire between the two countries. We traveled generally from one water course to another, where we passed the night, apprehending that we might not meet another at a suitable distance.

The greater part of our stages were from 3 to 10 miles, and a few of 15. Accordingly we observe, that from Chihuahua to where we reached Red River, about 50 miles on the other side of Fort Coffee, cannot exceed six hundred miles, and, consequently, eight hundred miles to Fort Smith or Van Buren, on the Arkansas.

"If the Government of the U. S. would grant the drawback on the merchandise which is exported by the new route, I have no doubt that the whole commerce of Chihuahua, in all its extension, would be made through that part of the U. S.; because they might be imported as far as Fort del Norte (a place of entry) in 40 or 50 days in wagons, at less expense than from Matamoros and from the ports of the Gulf of California, on mules. However, I am of opinion that a great part of what is consumed by the states of Durango and Tlaxcala, not less than four or five millions, could be furnished them by the new road, at more moderate prices than that at which they obtain them through the same channel at Chihuahua, at second hand, loaded with large commissions, freights, and great delays. So that this trade might assume an importance worthy of great consideration."

The cotton cloths imported into Mexico are equal in amount to one half the value of all the imported merchandise used in that country; and it is stated that a preference would always be given to the cotton fabrics of the U. S. on account of their superiority to the English. These goods would constitute an important article of the inland trade. But in the opinion of the writer a drawback is necessary on commodities thus imported into Mexico, without which the traffic would not flourish to any thing like the extent which it would otherwise reach.

United States Armory, &c., at Springfield, Massachusetts.

Among the many objects of interest within the reach of a traveler in our Eastern States, the armory at this place stands conspicuous, for the magnitude of its operations, the ingenious division of labor which exists in it, and the great beauty of its position on the Connecticut.

I know of but few places which exceed it in this last respect; the land owned by the Government contains about 100 acres, divided into two parts; one of 60, upon which the armories and part of the workshops and other public buildings are situated, built around an open square; the other of about 30 acres, lying three-fourths of a mile distant upon Mill River, the name of which sufficiently indicates the uses to which it is applied by the Government. The two are connected by a strip of land of two rods in width used for a street formerly owned by the Government, but which has lately been retroceded to the State, for the convenience of those who have built upon it, and to restore the road to State jurisdiction.

This Armory and the one at Harper's Ferry were established at their present locations on account of the water power, a circumstance which, since the application of steam to similar objects, would no longer influence the Government in the selection of an Armory. The soil being light and thin at Springfield upon the hill, it does not hold the water, and the arms are not exposed to the influence of heavy dews and fogs; in this view, the place seems admirably suited for their preservation. How it is in this respect at Harper's Ferry, I did not think to enquire when at the latter place. General Washington recommended Harper's Ferry, which now is but little suited to the purposes of an Armory, unless it is an advantage to be out of the reach of an enemy. It is equally out of the reach of its friends; it would be difficult, however, to effect an alteration in the locality, even if the cost of manufacture were enhanced beyond its present price, which is well known to be 25 per cent. greater than at Springfield. The health of Harper's Ferry does not equal that of Springfield. A friend, some time ago, looking over the establishment there, remarked, that the men (who were young) appeared to look well; a person in the works observed, 'they do, but all who are a little older lie there,' pointing to the graveyard. A change may have happened in this respect since the fact was related to me.

For each establishment an annual appropriation of \$180,000 is made, and occasionally appropriations for specific objects, such as the erection of a new building, or for an additional purchase. These are the only public establishments of the kind in the country. There are seven or eight private ones.

The amount of expenditure in 1838, at Springfield, was \$186,250 88, for which the Government manufactured 15,000 muskets, costing \$11 84 each; 15,035 screw-drivers, costing 7 cents each; 18,905 wipers, costing 13 cents each; 5,335 ball screws, costing 35 cents each; and 31,448 flint caps, at 1 cent each. During the year there were employed from 260 to 270 men daily, all of whom, excepting 1 Superintendent, 1 Master Armorer, 1 Pay Master, 4 Clerks, and 9 Inspectors, receive pay by the piece, and they are enabled to make from \$40 to \$60 per month, depending upon the nature of the employment and the degree of skill necessary. A fair day's work among the first class of laborers would produce \$2 per day; 2d class, \$1 00;

3d class, \$1 80 and so descending to the 9th class, producing \$1 30 per day. They labor but 10 hours. Seldom have I seen more substantial looking men than these. Those who live on the public grounds (composed chiefly of salaried officers) have no right to vote; they are provided with very neat dwellings built around the public square. Some of the workmen have been 30 years at the establishment, and are indispensable to its existence, so superior are they as mechanics, and so well drilled in all the details of their employment.

In January, 1839, it was determined that a change should happen in the fiscal year of the establishment, so that it should end with September following instead of December, and the reports of expenditure and manufacturing last made included only three-fourths of the year. The amount laid out during that period, was \$121,064 88 in the manufacture of arms, and for machinery \$6,705 31. 10,000 muskets were made during that period, and a large amount of the appendages needed in their use. The expenditure for machinery was very large, owing to a change which happened in the construction of the musket which will form the subject of a future letter.

The whole number manufactured from 1795 to the close of 1839, being a period of 45 years, was 437,460, composed of 253,300 bright and 184,160 brown; besides which in former years a few short guns, carbines and pistols were made, and large quantities of muskets have been from time to time repaired.

The Master Armorer, Mr. Thomas Warner, has kindly consented to go over the establishment with me. The process of manufacture is truly wonderful. I am told there are from twelve to fifteen hundred distinct operations in the fabrication of a single musket. I have never seen public men so willing to oblige a stranger, as those connected with this establishment.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

The Last Fish Story.

Truth is strange, 'tis true; 'tis true, 'tis strange; and strange it is, 'tis true!—The following is a fact:

Once upon a time, when the packet ship *Coriolanus* was returning from Liverpool to New York, the carpenter, a very worthy man, was taken sick, and, after brief illness, expired on ship-board. He had an interesting son, who was his assistant as ship carpenter, and the boy loved his father with the most tender and filial affection. The poor youth's heart was almost broken at the loss of his parent, and no persuasion could induce him to leave the body.

The usual preparations for a funeral at sea were made; the poor carpenter was sewed up in his winding sheet, and with him was put an old grind-stone, hatchet, and chisel, to carry him down to his long rest in the ocean. The poor boy grew frantic when his father was about to be committed to the waves, and was obliged to be held off by the sailors. At length, just as the fatal lurch of the vessel was taking place, the boy, with the strength of a maniac, broke from the sailors, and dashed himself upon the body at the very moment that it was sliding over the ship's side. It was too late to save him, and, clinging wildly to the dead body of his father, the hapless boy was seen to make one swift plunge, and disappear forever down, down, into the eternal caverns of the mighty ocean.

This was in lat. 97—long. 79, which was duly entered on the log-book. The *Coriolanus* arrived at New York, completed all the business preparatory for her next trip, and sailed again for Liverpool.

Take a long breath, reader, 'tis coming.

When in lat. 69—48, an enormous shark was caught, and when hauled upon deck, a most extraordinary noise seemed to proceed from the huge monster's stomach. The creature was opened, and there was the father, the son, the grind-stone, the hatchet, and chisel!!! O, if it aint true, then never may another fish story be believed! The poor carpenter had not died, but was only in a trance when they buried him, and there he was, sharpening his hatchet, with the son, turning the grindstone! they having just resolved to cut their way out of the shark's stomach!!!!—*Picayune.*

Notice of Dissolution.

The Co-Partnership heretofore existing between Charles H. Sutphen and D. C. Ballard was dissolved by mutual consent on the 1st of October last. The business of said firm will be settled up by Charles H. Sutphen.

CHARLES H. SUTPHEN.

D. C. BALLARD.

Indian Creek, Nov. 6, 1840. 25—4w

NOTICE.—A petition will be presented to the next session of the Legislature of the state of Illinois for a new County, beginning at the south-west corner of section 34 in town 31 in range 6; thence